

THE RESPONDER

SPRING 2017

ISSUE 12

Idaho Gateway for EMS (IGEMS)

As many of you know, IGEMS went live this past year. It has brought a customized, automated, and paperless EMS licensure system to EMS personnel, agency administrators, and educators. The affiliation process and license renewals can now be completed on-line. We are continuing to streamline the system to make it as user friendly as possible. We are currently taking IGEMS on the road for in-person trainings.

To date, we have over 2,000 active IGEMS accounts. If you haven't claimed your account, we recommend doing so as **fall license renewals are right around the corner!** If you need any assistance with this process, please visit our website or contact us directly.

A big thank you to those who have offered suggestions. We are here to answer any questions and assist in any way possible.

NREMT Certification Changes

NREMT has been transitioning to the National Continued Competency Program (NCCP) recertification model since 2012. Part of this model includes the need for state offices to approve the continuing education content areas for EMS providers who wish to maintain their NREMT. We have compiled topics and hours for recertification at all four certification levels (available on our website). This model is optional for those renewing their NREMT in 2017, but will be mandatory for all NREMT renewals by 2019. The topic areas for the national component are published by the NREMT every four years. The most recent revision of the National Component was published in October 2016. More information is available at the NREMT website (www.NREMT.org)

Committees & Commissions

EMS Advisory Committee (EMSAC)-EMSAC met in early February and discussed their vision for future meetings with the possibility of coinciding with EMSPC meetings. The EMS Dedicated grant was discussed and EMSAC moved to allow agencies to apply for alternate transport devices, provided that the requested device is not listed on the ineligible list, can securely and safely transport a supine patient, and that it will have a reasonable amount of usage.

EMS Physician Commission (EMSPC)-EMSPC also met in early February to discuss their vision for Medical Director (MD), continuing education, and prepare for the upcoming MD Roundtable in May. Topics for the Roundtable will include: clinical updates on resuscitation, spinal motion restriction, and interfacility transfers. The EMSP is also developing a required MD education plan using Idaho specific data.

2017 Idaho EMS for Children Pediatric Provider of the Year

May 21-27 is National EMS Week. During this week, we recognize May 24, 2017 as EMS for Children Day. EMSC day serves to raise awareness about improving and expanding care for children in the prehospital setting.

We want to recognize those EMS providers who've displayed outstanding care for a child in a medical or trauma emergency or have worked to improve pediatric care in Idaho. We solicited nominations for agencies and/or providers for the **2017 Pediatric Provider of the Year Award**. We hope to announce the award winners on May 12th.

EMS Rules Update

The following Rule changes were approved by the 2017 Legislature:

We simplified the Air Medical rules by making an Air Medical designation and an Air Medical Support designation (similar to the ground EMS agency designations). The Air Medical designation is the same as the previous Air Medical 1 and requires a crew configuration of paramedic and nurse on board each flight. The Air Medical Support designation is for air medical units that provide services such as hoist operations and patient extraction from remote areas, but do not intend to routinely fly patients from a scene to a hospital.

In preparation for the activation of REPLICA we added language that allows direct reciprocity for a licensed EMS provider moving into Idaho from another REPLICA state. Under this new rule, providers who move into Idaho from another REPLICA state will have 90 days to contact us to obtain their Idaho license.

National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) v3.40

The new NEMSIS Data Dictionary will go into effect on July 1, 2017. This version will allow us to begin the transition process to a newer version of PERCS. We are planning a one year transition to the new standard and software platform for PERC users. We will begin the process with educational sessions, webinars, and monthly stakeholder meetings. We also plan to discuss the transition at the upcoming EMSAC meeting on June 29th. For additional information, please contact John Cramer (john.cramer@dhw.idaho.gov) or 877-554-3367.

On-Line Rural Training Initiative (ORTI)

We have collaborated with North Idaho College to bring an on-line rural training opportunity throughout Idaho. This partnership will provide students in rural volunteer communities with affordable and flexible access to Idaho licensed EMS provider initial education. Applications for the ORTI Grant are available on our website under the Education link. The Grant cycle will run through March 30, 2018. We will fund the coordination and execution of ORTI classes with the following dates:

ORTI cohort January 1, 2017 - June 30, 2017

ORTI cohort August 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

ORTI cohort January 1, 2018 – March 30, 2018

New email addresses!

We are migrating to a new email address structure. Our old emails were: Lastname First Initial@dhw.idaho.gov. (JonesJ@dhw.idaho.gov). The new structure is First.Last@dhw.idaho.gov. (John.Jones@dhw.idaho.gov)

THE RESPONDER

BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER FOR

EMS & PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS STAKEHOLDERS

Idaho EMS Vitals - Provider Licenses

(August 2016 - February 2017)

Agency Licensure Report	
New	1
Retired	1
Total Idaho Licensed Agencies	177

Provider Licenses		
	Initial	Renewal
EMR	17	34
EMT	245	496
AEMT	16	308
Paramedic	76	293

Written Exams		
	Passed	Tested
EMR	13	14
EMT	174	213
AEMT	8	11
Paramedic	7	8

Investigation Totals			
	Agency	Provider	Education
Open Cases	9	9	1
Closed Cases	4	6	0
New Cases	7	3	1

Hails and Farewells

Welcome: Matthew Dudley, Kerry Hendershot, Tauscha Huerta, Megan Kautz, and Ashtin Mitchell

Farewells: Karen Anderson, Janet Brown, Jenny Brown, Vickie Davies, Brian Esslinger, Diana Hone, Todd King, and Coleen Rice

Promotions: Ashtin Mitchell, Xenya Poole, and Chris Rogers



Mailing Address: 208.334.4000 (Office)
P.O. Box 83720 877.554.3367 (Toll-free)
Boise, ID 83720-0036 208.334.4015 (fax)

Public Health Preparedness

Influenza - In early January, Idaho had eight identified influenza outbreaks leading to many hospitalizations. At the same time we were dealing with the unusually severe winter weather. Both of which meant that some hospital staff were either sick or unable to travel to and from work. To get a better understanding of the impact, a statewide hospital bed count query was conducted and found that of the 2,084 hospital beds in Idaho, 470 of those were available for new patients.

"Wasatch Wobble" - The State Public Health Operations Center (SPHOC) team will be taking part in the Wasatch Wobble exercise. The exercise is set to take place May 8-12, 2017 and is being led by Southeastern Idaho Public Health. Exercise participants will be from counties in southeastern Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming. The exercise is a continuation of the Cascadia Rising exercise and will address recovery operations, medical sheltering, community services support, behavioral health, and restoring hospital operations following a large scale earth-quake along the Wasatch Front.

Ebola - The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Ebola Program provided the following:

PER-320 Personal Protective Measures for Biological Events course - A one day, course that focused on the challenges faced by first responders and clinical health care professionals in pre hospital and hospital environments related to working in personal protective equipment (PPE).

ISOPOD training - this course was in early March and provided training to Emergency Medical Services staff in regards to the ISOPOD system. The ISOPOD is a portable, individual isolation system designed to fit on top of a gurney or to be transported by hand. The system creates a negative air pressure environment for isolating a contaminated patient and enabling first responders to transport the patient from the incident scene to advanced medical treatment with minimal risk to the healthcare provider.

Community Health EMS (CHEMS)

BLS/ILS Sub Workgroup - The workgroup was formed to develop a foundational curriculum for EMTs and Advanced EMTs to provide CHEMS in their communities. The BLS/ILS sub workgroup consisted of EMS agencies, Idaho State University, Boise State University, Ada County Paramedics, and Clearwater Hospital.

Idaho State University Community Paramedic (CP) Program - The first cohort graduated in December of 2016. The 2nd cohort has begun and is represented by 12 paramedics from seven different agencies. We are currently recruiting for the 3rd cohort.

For more information visit us at www.chems.dhw.idaho.gov or Email us at chems@dhw.idaho.gov



Resources and Websites

Bureau of EMS and Preparedness	www.idahoems.org
Public Health Emergency Preparedness	www.READYidaho.org
TRAIN Idaho—Learning Management System	https://id.train.org
EMS for Children (click on EMS for children)	www.idahoems.org

Bureau of EMS & Preparedness
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0036

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From the Bureau Chief

Greetings,

With the thaw from the record-breaking winter of 2016/2017 well underway, we are all now concerned about the incredible volume of water that has to somehow flow... somewhere! Hopefully you are staying dry and ready for what may shape up to be an eventful summer. We have a packed newsletter, so let me get straight to "what's new"!

One of the events that is coming this summer that we all need to start thinking about is the solar eclipse that will occur in August. There is a band that stretches across Idaho from Driggs to Weiser where people will be able to see the total eclipse for several minutes. As you know, the weather in that part of the state tends to be clear and sunny in August which promises to make southern Idaho one of the best places in the world to view the eclipse. With this in mind, there is a considerable amount of planning already underway to get ready for the flocks of people who may come to Idaho to view the eclipse. If you are an EMS provider in the southern half of the state and have not yet gotten involved in the planning for the eclipse, please check with your County Emergency Manager to see what they have in the works. If you are not in the direct path of the eclipse, but would like to get involved, there may be opportunities for you as well as there are several communities that are going to be looking for help. Stay tuned as we get closer to August!

I am very pleased to report that the Time Sensitive Emergencies System continues to grow! By our latest count, there are 27 facility applications either granted or in the review process for Trauma, Stroke or STEMI center designation. We have seen several simulation-based training opportunities happening in local TSE systems that have included EMS providers. TSE has also hosted Regional Rural Trauma Team Development courses. If you have not yet gotten involved in any of these activities, please reach out to your regional TSE committee or give the TSE team here at the Bureau a call and we'll get you connected!

Looking forward, we are planning this summer's "Chat with the Chief". I'd love to see you at one of the meetings if you can make it. We are also going to be traveling around the state for the next few months discussing potential changes to the EMS Grant Rules. The dates of the meetings are listed here in the newsletter. It would be great if you can make one of the meetings!

I'll close by thanking each of you for all you do. Have a great summer, stay safe and I hope to see you soon!

Wayne

Chats with the Chief

Meetings are currently in the planning process. If you are interested in hosting a Chat with the Chief, please contact Bruce Cheeseman, (208)-334-4000.



2017 Proposed Grant Rules Upcoming Town Hall Meetings

- **May 4, 2017**-Kootenai County EMS, 4381 W. Seltice Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID 7:00pm (PDT)
- **May 9, 2017**-Boise State University, Student Union Building, Alexander Room, 1700 University Drive, Boise, ID 6:00pm (MDT)
- **May 11, 2017**-Magic Valley Paramedics, Station 1, 285 Martin Street, Twin Falls, ID 7:00pm (MDT)
- **May 16, 2017**-East Idaho Public Health, 1250 Hollipark Dr., Idaho Falls, ID 7:00pm (MDT)
- **May 17, 2017**-Southeastern Idaho Public Health, 1901 Alvin Ricken Drive, Pocatello, ID 7:00pm (MDT)
- **May 23, 2017**-Lewiston Fire Department, Station 1, 300 13th St., Lewiston, ID 7:00pm (PDT)
- **June 6, 2017**-McCall Fire Department, 201 Deinhard Ln., McCall, ID 7:00pm (MDT)
- **June 12, 2017**-Lemhi County Emergency MGT/LEPC, 200 Fulton, Suite 102, Salmon, ID 7:30pm (MDT)

Keeping you in the know is important to the Bureau of EMS & Preparedness! That is why this newsletter has been developed. The Bureau wants to keep you, the EMS providers of Idaho, up-to-date with some of the goings-on at the Bureau and with overall EMS in the state. We invite you to offer suggestions, contributions, stories, photos, recognitions, newspaper articles, or general comments about our newsletter or anything else you would like to see in it.

Send us an email at idaohoems@dhw.idaho.gov For an online version of the newsletter, visit us at www.idahoems.org.

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Fiscal Year 2017 Dedicated Grant Report Out

Total \$ Amount Awarded: **\$1,400,000.00**

Total # of Agencies Awarded: **55**

Total Vehicle Awards: **9**

Vehicle Funds: **\$767,504.00**

Total Equipment Awards: **51**

Equipment Funds: **\$632,496.00**

Total # of Agencies Requesting: **61**

Total Vehicle Requests: **23**

Total Equipment Requests: **51**

Total Amount Requested: **\$2,818,614.00**